

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 23, 27 and 28 are objected to. Applicants have amended the objected claims per the Examiner's suggestions. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of Examiner's objection of these claims.

Claims 1, 3, 11-15, 19-21, and 23-30 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,651,176 (Soltis) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,407,595 (Huang). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Three criteria must be met to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. MPEP 2143. There must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge available to one of skill in the art, to combine the references. *Id.* There must be a reasonable expectation of success. *Id.* And, lastly, the prior art references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *Id.* "The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant's disclosure." MPEP 2143 (*citing In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991)).

The Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for at least the following reasons: (1) the references of Soltis and Huang do not suggest the combination or motivate one skilled in the art to combine them; (2) Soltis and Huang combined do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of independent claims 1, 11, 19 and 27; and (3) Soltis and Huang combined do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of dependent claims 3-10, 12-18, 20, 21, 23-26 and 28-30.

As indicated above, the teachings or suggestions to combine must be found in Soltis and Huang, not in Applicants' patent application. Applicants' submit that the Examiner has combined Soltis and Huang based on the Applicants' application disclosure. The Examiner's primary reference is Soltis. The Examiner admits that Soltis does not teach "that the power delivery unit includes the clock gating circuit to control power delivery" in the Final Office

Action dated June 20, 2004. The Examiner then states that Huang teaches this feature. Applicants assert that nothing in Soltis suggests that "the clock gating circuit ...control power delivery" is even needed since in Soltis there is no mention of a power delivery unit to control power delivery.

Further, Soltis and Huang combined do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of independent claims. Neither Soltis nor Huang teach or suggest a power delivery unit. The Examiner states that the power delivery unit is inherent in Soltis. Applicants respectfully disagree. One major aspect of the present application is about controlling power delivery to the pipeline. Since neither Soltis nor Huang teach or suggest this feature, they cannot be combined.

For the reasons stated above, Applicants assert that there is no motivation to modify Soltis with the teachings of Huang. Therefore, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. Thus, the claims are patentable over the cited combination of references (*i.e.*, Soltis and Huang).

Claims 4 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Soltis, Huang and U.S. Patent No. 5,694,607 (Dunstan). For the reasons stated above with respect to the independent claims, these dependent claims are also allowable.

Claims 5 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Soltis, Huang and U.S. Patent No. 6,512,757 (Niegel). For the reasons stated above with respect to the independent claims, these dependent claims are also allowable.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Soltis, Dunstan and U.S. Patent No. 6,721,870 (Yochai). For the reasons stated above with respect to the independent claims, these dependent claims are also allowable.

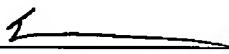
In summary, for the reasons noted above, the claims are distinguished over the cited art and are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. Favorable action is respectfully solicited. Allowance of the Claims is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional charges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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